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Rumania ED1

/For information on the construction and form of houses, yards and farm buildings, see 17: Thurnher, EF6 Serbs file, category 116, pp. 74-79, passim and 86O-86Q./

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Yugoslavia EF1

Albania EG1

Rumania ED1 •

Bulgaria EE1

/For general information on houses and farm buildings, see 17: Thurnher, EF6 Serbs file, category 116, pp. 79-88./

342 A MARKED FEATURE is the comparative absence of chimneys.  
374 The cooking is done in an outhouse, no doubt to minimise the risk of fire, but the dwelling house is generally heated by a stove, the smoke from which passes up through the ceiling in an iron pipe and then escapes into the open air through holes cut in the gable ends or, in the case of a hipped roof, through a small louvre.

345 THE OUTHOUSES are for the most part simple structures and call for no special comment.

511 CLEANLINESS and simplicity are the keynotes of the domestic economy. Household effects are kept down to a minimum, but upon their manufacture an enormous amount of time and skill is lavished, especially in the case of textiles. The skilfully-woven designs on the tapestries and pillows shown Plate XVI are an illustration of such effort.

#### POPULATION.

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563 ACCORDING to the 1930 census Corbu had a population of 1,563, distributed among 358 households. The majority of the inhabitants are, of course, Roumanians, for the commune lies right on the fringe of the Szekler country. In spite of having lived in close association with the Roumanians for many generations, however, the Szeklers are easily distinguished by their dress, their physical type (though this is by no means an infallible guide), their adherence to Roman Catholicism, and, of course, their language. Although culturally there is an appreciable difference between the Roumanian and Szekler peasantry, there is to-day an even wider gap between these folk and the Tsiganes or Gipsies who form a much smaller, though very interesting, minority.

[42] Generally speaking, the Roumanians contribute a dark, and the Szeklers a fair, element to the broad-headed population, whereas the Gipsies are for the most part distinctly long-headed and very dark. There is an equally well-marked difference on economic grounds, for both Roumanians and Szeklers are essentially peasants, whereas the Gipsy, being landless, is compelled to seek a livelihood by trading, unless he be either smith or musician, following the traditional pursuits of his forbears (see Plate VI).

342 THE HOUSES occupied by Gipsies, while resembling in style  
563 those of the peasants, can usually be recognised by the

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PLATE VI

5: Fleure S-5. (no date) 1939 EDI Rumania EDI



Outdoor Summer-Kitchen

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A small house in Curtea de Argeş of similar type to Mayor's house.

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being given to growing maize and vegetable marrows, though there were various small fruit-trees. The open space in front of the house had a summer kitchen. These out-door kitchens are used by almost all the peasants where an open space or yard of any sort provides available space (see illustration opposite).

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THE SECOND HOUSE which we visited and examined is illustrated facing page 29 (B). This shows a well-built structure and represents the type which is more common in the town itself. The walls, which are whitewashed, are of brick and rubble and have an average thickness of 32 cm. There is a good shingled roof with good carved wooden decoration under the eave. The floor of the terrace is earth, and the entire structure of the balcony is of wood, without paint or stain. The end of the house has a pleasing finish in the form of a moulded cornice and pilasters (B).

THIS HOUSE is occupied by two families; the men, both being potters, share the potter's table (two wheels) in the lower house.

2 [See pp. 306 (HRAF pagination) - - Analyst]

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2 [See pp. 286 (HRAF pagination) - - Analyst]

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The stairway, about 1.25 meters wide made of massive logs, is generally on the inside of the buildings; when it is located on the outside it leads onto the wooden balcony. The exterior is white-washed. In addition, the surface is decorated with molded bands around each story division. There may also be a vertical division, thus creating a number of large panels. While these areas are symmetrical, neither they nor the molded bands that enclose them have any relation to the placing of windows or pillars (Jänecke, 1918: 62-63).

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In 1895 there still existed about 55,000 earth huts (bordet) which were inhabited by the poorest population, generally Gypsies (fig. 63). They are common in the Danubian plain. Over an excavation 1-3 meters deep is placed a gabled roof. The roof is made of boards over which earth is laid. Sometimes reeds are placed over the boards before the earthen cover is added. The entrance is on one of the gabled sides, generally with a southerly exposure, and a window is placed on each gable side (Jänecke, 1918: 4).

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Farm Buildings. In the lowlands the buildings are arranged in no definite order; though generally the house is closest to the road. The corn-house (coşar) is either opposite to or at right angles to the house so that it can be watched. The yard and orchard are surrounded by a fence. The simplest fence is made of wickerwork between wooden poles. More often, however, it is made of boards that have intricate excised designs (fig. 60). The wealthy people may add an imposing gateway with a small door. Flower or vegetable gardens are rare, and the latter are called bulgări, since they are generally kept by immigrant Bulgarians who grow all the vegetables for town consumption (Stratilesco, 1907: 233). The farmstead is surrounded by shady trees, and there is generally a plum orchard at the back of the farm buildings (Jänecke, 1918: 8-9).

In the mountain regions the arrangement of the buildings in the yard differs from that of the lowlands. The stables and other buildings are arranged on the border of the yard in a horseshoe form to serve as protection for the house. The yard is usually very small, and has a strong high palisade with a massive gateway, the whole giving the farm a fortress-like appearance (the author points to the presence of bears in summer and wolves in winter) (Jänecke, 1918: 32-35).

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In the lowlands there are generally not many additional farm buildings in the yard, and this fact is correlated with the pattern of building additional annexes to the house, a more economical and practical procedure. Stables are of the simplest lathwork or wickerwork, covered with a straw roof. Sheds for the storage of straw, hay and cornstalks are absent, for the latter are stacked into tall round piles in the open. The baking oven for summer use, made of mud and bricks, has a hipped roof supported by four pillars.

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The only noteworthy building is the corn-house (*păture de porumb*) (figs. 59a, 59b), which is found, however, only among the well-to-do. Unlike the house, it is a two-story structure. The lower floor has plastered walls, and serves as stable and cart-shed. The upper story is made of wickerwork, often arranged in interesting patterns, permitting the air to circulate. The attic is used for the storage of food and is reached by a ladder from the outside. The hipped roof is of straw (Jänecke, 1918: 25-27).

In the mountain regions stables have only three walls, and animals stay in these half-open shelters even in winter. The imposing corn-house of the plains is rarely found in the mountains. In its place is erected a long narrow building of wickerwork. This rests on short stone pillars about 50 centimeters above the ground and is covered by a shingled roof. Since the ground floor of the house is used for storage there is no need for many additional farm buildings (Jänecke, 1918: 43-45).

## CONCLUSION

Having presented an area by area discussion of the village forms and farmsteads, it is desirable to trace the distribution of certain major elements. Roughly, four types of settlement pattern can be distinguished. They are the village consisting of widely scattered hamlets (Cvijić's Stari Vlah type); the agglomerated village (Cvijić's Timok type); the road village (Cvijić's Mačva type); and the čiflik type, the settlement created by Turkish landowners. The first of these is composed of widely scattered houses in no regular order, grouped into hamlets a number of which constitute a village. It predominates in Slovenia, Western Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, western Serbia, and in the mountain areas of central Bulgaria and Rumania. A variant of this form, characterized by more closely spaced houses within the separate hamlets (Cvijić's Ibar type), exists in the Karst regions behind the Adriatic coast, in Albania and south-western and western Serbia. Hilly terrain and forested regions are conducive to this scatter, but are not the sole determinants. The Ibar type is associated with greater barrenness of soil and the necessity of conserving arable land.

Agglomerated villages are characterized by crowded houses set in an irregular order along crooked streets. They prevail in eastern and southern Serbia and in southern Macedonia. While they are associated with the necessity of conserving arable land in some of the more barren regions of eastern Serbia, this explanation will not hold for the fertile basins of Kosovo, Kumanovo and Skoplje. Here they are no doubt the result of diffusion from the Aegean coast, as these areas are on communication lines which run up the Vardar and Morava River valleys from the coast toward Beograd.

The third or Mačva type is that of the more or less planned village lying on both sides of the highway. These villages tend to

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[556]R  
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[417]R  
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Fig. 59a Corn-house

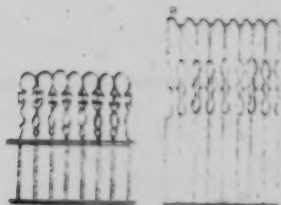


Fig. 60 Fence with Excised Designs

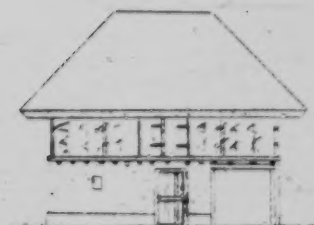


Fig. 59b Front View of Fig. 59a

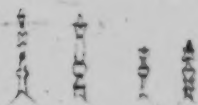


Fig. 61 Decorations at End of Ridgepole

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Fig. 59c Floor Plan of Fig. 59a  
A) Stable  
B) Cart-shed



Fig. 62 Arrangement of Shingles at Ridgepole

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Fig. 63 Semi-subterranean House of the Danube Plain

[P. 86-P]